

In the Claims.

Amend claims 1 and 6 as follows.

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1. [Amended] A device for the advancement of bars [, particularly narrow bars,] in automatic loaders provided with a loading system for a plurality of bars, with a mechanism for the individual release of said bars, and with a pusher ^{adapted to connect} ~~provided~~ with a collet which is adapted to receive the rear end of a released bar, comprising: guiding means, whereon supporting elements [for] ~~adapted~~ to support a bar released from said system, and a carriage provided with grip elements for said bar, are slideable, said carriage being actuated between an initial position, where said grip elements are actuated so as to grip [a] the bar deposited on said supporting elements, and a final position, where said bar is released by said grip elements, after inserting the ^{bar} ~~pusher~~ in the collet, and is [secured] inserted in [the] a spindle of an automatic lathe, said pusher being supported so as to [move parallel to itself] translate; and means for locking and actuating said pusher [after said carriage] between an offset position and a position where [it] said pusher is aligned with the bar deposited on said supporting elements when said carriage is in the final position.

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6. [Amended] A device according to claim 5, wherein said pusher is connected to a flexible traction element slideable in a guide, locking means being provided for locking and rotating said pusher from said offset position to an aligned position for pushing on said bar when said carriage is in said final position and said flat plate is in

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canceled*
said inactive position.

In the Drawings.

Figure 6 of the drawings has been amended. In particular, reference numerals "5" and "6" have been exchanged.

In Figure 1 axis VI-VI has been added.

In Figures 4 and 5 reference numerals 11, 14, 36 and 38 have been added.

It is to be noted that the pusher bar 39 is not shown in figures 1 and 2 because it is hidden by what is actually shown. In any case, looking at Figures 4 and 5, it appears how the pusher bar 39 comes to be arranged between reference numerals 14 and 11, which are also shown in Figure 1.

Remarks.

The Examiner's comments and objections and the cited references have been carefully considered by the Applicant.

It is noted that the Examiner considered applicant's claim 1 as being obvious in view of Werkmeister when combined with Johnson.

The applicant respectfully argues that Werkmeister teaches a device for feeding bars which is provided with grip elements (22, corresponding to the applicant's blades 11 and 14) that are not movable along the bar as in the

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